

HOUSE BILL 864

By Brooks H

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55,
Chapter 8, relative to motorists passing bicycles.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 8, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

§ 55-8-197.

(a) When overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction, a person driving a motor vehicle shall exercise due care by leaving a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than three (3) feet until the motor vehicle is safely past the overtaken bicycle.

(b) When overtaking and passing a bicycle pursuant to this section, no motor vehicle shall be driven to the left side of the center of the roadway in overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction, unless such left side is clearly visible and is free from oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be completely made without interfering with the safe operation of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction or any bicycle overtaken. In every event the overtaking vehicle must return to the right-hand side of the roadway before coming within one hundred feet (100") of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction.

(c) If a person violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and the violation results in a collision causing serious physical injury to another person, the person shall be subject to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), in addition to any other penalties prescribed by law.

(d) If a person violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and the violation results in the death of another person, the person shall be subject to a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), in addition to any other penalties prescribed by law.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.